

### **Abstract**

A process for fractionating a starting mixture (A) of two or more components by extractive distillation using a selective solvent (S) in a dividing wall column (TKW), wherein

- the process is carried out in a dividing wall column (TKW) having a dividing wall (TW) which is aligned in the longitudinal direction of the column and extends to the upper end of the column and divides the interior of the column into a first region (1), a second region (2) and a lower combined column region (3),
- the starting mixture (A) is fed into the first region (1), a first top stream (B) is taken off from the first region (1) and a second top stream (C) is taken off from the second region (2), with each of the streams having a prescribed specification,
- the selective solvent (S) is introduced in the upper part of the first region (1) and/or in the upper part of the second region (2) and
- the flow of solvent (S1) into the first region (1) and/or the flow of solvent (S1) into the second region (2) are set so that each of the prescribed specifications for the top streams (B, C) are met,

is proposed.

(Fig. 1)